

Message Text

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PAGE 01 AMMAN 06164 131207Z

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ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

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FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5630

S E C R E T AMMAN 6164

NODIS/CHEROKEE

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM THE AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, JO, US

SUBJECT: JORDANIAN REACTION TO SINAI ACCORD

REF: STATE 217221

1. I SAW RIFAI MORNING SEPTEMBER 13 AND CONVEYED TO HIM ORALLY, BUT VERBATIM, TEXT APPROPRIATE PORTIONS PARA 2 REFTEL. I TOLD HIM THAT THIS WAS REPLY I HAD RECEIVED TO RESULTS MEETING ON WEDNESDAY WITH KING WHICH I HAD REPORTED ON IN TELEGRAMS TO WASHINGTON.

2. HIS REACTION WAS NOT UNEXPECTEDLY VERY SHARP. HE SAID IF THE UNITED STATES DID NOT NEED A STATEMENT FROM JORDAN, WHY HAD THE US MADE SUCH AN EFFORT OVER THE PAST WEEK. HE CONTINUED: "WE ARE NOT AN AMERICAN COLONY AND WE WILL SEND BACK AN ANSWER -- SOMETHING LIKE THIS CANNOT BE LET STAND."

3. I TOLD RIFAI THAT THERE WAS NO QUESTION IN MY MIND THAT WE FELT LET DOWN BY THE FACT THAT JORDAN HAD BEEN IN THE FOREFRONT OF THOSE URGING US TO REACH AN AGREEMENT AND NOW REFUSED TO SAY ANYTHING POSITIVE ABOUT THE ACCORD.

4. RIFAI REPLIED THAT "WE HAVE NO PROBLEM WITH THE UNITED STATES OR ITS ROLE." WE MERELY OBJECT TO WHAT EGYPT

SECRET

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PAGE 02 AMMAN 06164 131207Z

AGREED TO. SINCE THE UNITED STATES DID NOT DICTATE THE

TERMS OF THE AGREEMENT TO EGYPT AND ISRAEL, OUR PROBLEM
IS NOT WITH THE UNITED STATES OR WITH SECRETARY KISSINGER.

5. I TOLD HIM IN REPLY THAT WE COULD NOT IGNORE WHAT
JORDAN HAD SAID PUBLICLY ABOUT THE AGREEMENT AND THE
NEGATIVE IMPLICATIONS WHICH THIS LEFT IN THE UNITED
STATES AND ELSEWHERE. IF HE WANTED TO SEND BACK A REPLY,
I WAS PREPARED OF COURSE TO TRANSMIT IT.

6. HE SAID THAT HE WILL CONSULT IMMEDIATELY WITH THE
KING AND WILL HAVE A REPLY FOR ME TO TRANSMIT.
PICKERING

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Message Attributes

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